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A REPORT

OF THE

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE

TOWN OF SOUTH HAMPTON, N. H.,

FROM MARCH 1st., 1865, TO MARCH 1st, 1866.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in the Treasury, March 25th, 1865,	\$1003 95
Received of Benjamin B. Brown, Collector for 1861,	30 17
" Phillips White, Collector for 1862,	88 47
" John Paige, Collector for 1864,	363 01
" John Paige, Collector for 1865,	4200 00
Received from the State, amount of State note and interest,	2332 00
" from the State, two assignments,	200 00
" of the State, as State Aid,	876 00
" " Literary Fund,	11 90
" from the County for support of John Armstrong,	232 22
" of the County for supplies furnished the family of William H. Paisley,	85 25
" of B. F. Hill, for grass on burying ground,	1 50
" of F. B. French, for grass at the Pool and Beach,	5 75
" for old bridge timber,	2 75
Cash hired of Sally A. Barnard,	200 00
" " Lucien Smiley,	1200 00
" " Abner J. Wiggin,	500 00
" " Frederick B. French,	100 00
" " John A. Morrill,	100 00
" " Thomas J. Goodwin,	100 00
" " Nancy T. Currier,	300 00
" " John C. Forsaith,	150 00
" " Philip Currier,	200 00
" " William E. Brown,	50 00
" " Samuel S. White,	200 00
" " James Palmer,	150 00
	<u>\$12,680 97</u>

EXPENDITURES.

NOTE AND INTEREST ACCOUNT.

Paid George R. Huse, note and interest,	\$ 355 10
Newmarket Bank, note,	3000 00
P. P. Whitehouse, note and interest,	164 22
Ann E. C. Smith, note and interest,	211 50
George Jewell, note and interest,	1123 00
Stephen Woodman, note and interest,	1242 40
James Palmer, note and interest,	150 00
Thomas J. Goodwin, note and interest,	105 00
Rebecca P. Breed, note and interest,	654 07
Frederick B. French, note and interest,	106 25
Abel K. Fowler, note and interest,	312 05
Eliza D. Pillsbury, interest on note,	26 25
Sally A. Barnard, interest on notes,	154 00
Michael Summers, " "	18 00
Abner J. Wiggin, " "	31 00
Barnard School Fund " " " "	84 00
William H. Currier, " "	18 00
Sally Currier, " "	6 00
Abram Shaw's estate, " "	15 00
Fanny N. Shaw, " "	11 64
Jacob Jewell, " "	4 50
Jeremiah M Goodwin " "	4 50
Thomas J. Goodwin, " "	48 00
Hannah Weed, " "	24 00
Thomas Flanders, " "	12 00
Mary A. Wiggin, " "	35 10
John C. Forsaith, " "	7 00
Lucien Smiley, " "	24 00
Nancy T. Currier, " "	6 00
Philip Currier, " "	4 00
W. E. Brown, " "	1 00
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	\$7957 58

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid Joseph Follansbee, School District No. 1,	\$ 183 78
Samuel Eastman, " " No. 2,	112 95
John Moulton, " " No. 3,	74 17
Andrew J. Currier, " " No. 4,	41 00
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	\$411 88

ABATEMENT ON TAXES.

Paid abatement on taxes, 1861,	\$ 17 60
" " " 1862,	18 75
" " " 1864,	11 60
" " " 1865,	83 20
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	\$131 15

SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

Paid Mary A. Jones, board and clothing,	\$ 94 20
Sarah Hubbard,	156 00
for William H. Paisley's family,	44 00
N. H. Asylum for the support of John Armstrong,	232 22
for goods furnished Susan E. Currier,	10 07
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	\$536 49

STATE AID TO SOLDIERS' FAMILIES.

Paid Abel K. Fowler,	\$68 50
George H. Lang,	36 00
Otis S. Currier,	48 00
George Brewer,	45 00
Thomas G. Wentworth,	15 00
Cyrus W. Tenney,	24 00
Michael Summers,	36 00
Edwin S. Osgood,	24 00
Israel S. Merrill,	20 00
William F. Dame,	45 00
George R. Huse,	12 00
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	\$373 50

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid John Currier for bridge timber,	\$27 47
For labor on new road at the Peak,	7 43
For labor on Chase road,	41 75
Isaiah F. Purinton, labor on highway,	4 25
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	\$80 90

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Jacob Eaton, services and fees as Town Clerk,	\$20 00
Frederick B. French, for services as Superintending School Com.,	15 50
I. S. Purinton, for services as Sexton,	9 00
John Paige, services as Collector,	45 04
" " " Treasurer,	50 00
" " time and expense to Newmarket,	6 00
" " time and expense to Concord,	12 00
" " time and expense to Portsmouth,	6 00
" " time and expense to Exeter twice,	8 00
Gilman B. Currier, services as Selectman,	20 00
" " for house room,	12 00
" " two days' time and expense to Concord,	9 70
" " hiring money,	4 00
" " time and expense to Exeter in Hardy case,	2 00
" " time and expense to Exeter to settle County pauper bills,	3 00
" " to making return of soldiers' bounties to Provost Marshal,	2 00
" " to making return of war expenses to State Auditor,	2 00
" " to making out State Aid Orders,	5 00
" " stationery and stamps,	4 00
" " as Overseer of the Poor,	5 00

Jacob Eaton, services as Overseer of the Poor,	5 00
" " services as Selectman,	20 00
" " to four days' time and expense to Concord twice,	19 50
" " time and expense to Exeter to settle Co. pauper bills,	3 00
" " time and expense to Exeter in Hardy case,	2 00
" " hiring money,	4 00
" " to making out State Aid Orders,	5 00
" " making return of soldiers' bounties to Prov. Marshal,	2 00
" " making return of war expenses to State Auditor,	2 00
" " revenue and postage stamps,	3 00
James Palmer, services as Selectman,	20 00
" " making return of soldiers' bounties to Prov. Marshal,	2 00
" " making return of war expenses to State Auditor,	2 00
" " hiring money,	1 00
" " Collector's book and stamp,	92
" " extra services,	5 00
Rufus Dow, auditing Selectmen's accounts, March, 1865,	12 00
" " going to Amesbury to get Reports printed,	2 00
John M. Tukesbury, auditing Selectmen's accounts, March, 1865,	2 50
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	\$353 16

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid State Tax,	\$1500 00.
County Tax,	416 72
John P. Clifford, bounty as voted by the town,	200 00
F. Grant for Blank Books,	1 29
W. H. B. Currier for printing two Reports,	30 00
" " " for printing Tax Bills,	2 00
D. L. Bartlett for Blank Books,	13 50
Ephraim Clifford for support of watering trough,	3 00
Jacob Eaton for support of watering trough,	3 00
For setting glass in Town House,	25
Non-Resident Highway Orders,	6 71
Andrew J. Currier, sheep killed by dogs,	7 00
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	\$2183 47

Statement of the Finances of the Town, March 1st, 1866.

Whole amount of Receipts,	\$12,680 97
Paid Note and Interest Account,	\$7957 58
Support of Schools,	411 88
Abatement on Taxes,	131 15
State Aid to Soldiers's Families,	373 50
Highways and Bridges,	80 90
Support of the Poor,	536 49
Town Officers,	353 16
Miscellaneous Expenses,	2183 47
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	\$12,028 13
Balance in Treasurer's hands, cash,	652 84
Whole amount of Taxes made and committed to the Collector for 1865,	\$4504 63
Of which he has paid,	4200 00
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	\$304 63

The Town owes as follows :—

Jacob Jewell,	\$ 75 00	Nathan B. Tilton,	1000 00
Jeremiah M. Goodwin,	75 00	Thomas Flanders,	200 00
Michael Summers,	300 00	Fanny N. Shaw,	194 00
Sally A. Barnard,	2700 00	Abram Shaw's estate,	250 00
George Jewell,	1100 00	Hannah Weed,	400 00
Eliza D. Pillsbury,	500 00	Lucien Smiley,	1200 00
Barnard School Fund,	1400 00	John A. Morrill,	100 00
Abner J. Wiggin,	850 00	Nancy T. Currier,	300 00
Mary A. Wiggin,	585 00	Philip Currier,	200 00
William H. Currier,	300 00	William E. Brown,	50 00
Sally Currier,	100 00	Samuel S. White,	200 00
John C. Forsaith,	350 00		
Thomas J. Goodwin,	800 00		
			<u>\$13,229 00</u>

The Assets are as follows ;—

Due from William C. Randall, Collector for 1858,	\$ 1 60
" Benjamin B. Brown, " " 1861,	3 20
" Phillips White, " " 1862,	27 63
" David Page, " " 1863,	20 91
" John Paige, " " 1864,	75 79
" " " " 1865,	304 63
" United States bounties,	1440 00
" State of N. H., State Aid,	165 50
" the State, Railroad Tax,	12 00
" John C. Kennison, for grass,	4 10
" James M. Heath and Rufus F. Dow, note and interest,	345 00
Cash on hand in the Treasury,	652 84
	<u>\$3053 20</u>
Whole amount of Assets,	\$3053 20

RECAPITULATION.

Whole amount of indebtedness,	\$13,229 00
Whole amount of Assets,	3053 20
	<u>Town Debt, \$10,175 80</u>

GILMAN B. CURRIER, } Selectmen
 JACOB EATON, } of
 JAMES PALMER, } South Hampton.

The undersigned has examined the Selectmen's account, and finds it properly
 vouched and correctly cast. THOMAS J. GOODWIN, Auditor.

South Hampton, March 7, 1866.

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

THE close of another political year obliges your Committee to present to the town, at its annual meeting, a report of the progress and condition of the schools during the past year; also such suggestions as may be useful, upon the management of schools and the subject of education.

Engrossed, as we necessarily have been for the past four years, with the unusual civil duties growing out of the strife between the two sections of our land, the subjects of Education and of our Common Schools have been, we fear, too much neglected, and allowed to be, for the time, forgotten. As the civil strife is now passed, and peace again pervades our land, we hope and expect to see our people give that attention to educational matters which the subjects require; and, as a safeguard against rebellions, your Committee feels it incumbent on him to call the attention of every citizen, especially every parent, to the importance of the great work—the education of the rising generation. The perpetuity of our republican form of government, the safety of our free institutions, of our social, civil and religious privileges, are all depending upon the education of the children.

The amount of money raised by the town for the support of schools, the present year, was \$400.* This sum is ten per cent. below the amount raised last year. The amount of money raised for schooling is in proportion to the valuation of the town. The valuation, as given by the Selectmen last year, was considerably below the amount the previous year,—hence the school money was reduced ten per cent.

The amount of Literary Fund received from the State the present year, which is expended for schooling, was \$11,90. This sum is sixty per cent. below that received last year. The Literary Fund arises from a tax of one-half of one per cent. on the capital stock of all the local banks in the State. Many of the local banks have been changed to national banks during the past two years. The capital stock of the national banks is not assessed for schooling purposes,—hence the loss of so much of the Literary Fund.

It is with pleasure that your Committee can say that the schools, the past year, have been generally prosperous, and but little dissatisfaction has come to his knowledge.

*The tax bills for the present year gave, as the amount of money raised for schooling, \$387,91. This was an error.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Prudential Committee—JOSEPH FOLLANSBEE. Teacher—Miss L. ADDIE FRENCH, of Chesterville, Maine. The school was divided into three terms. The first commenced April 17th, and continued thirteen weeks, ending July 14th; the second term commenced September 4th, and continued ten weeks, ending November 10th; the third term commenced November 27th, and continued four weeks, ending December 21st. The third term was shortened two weeks in consequence of severe illness of the teacher. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$22. Number of scholars four years of age and upwards, attending first term, 44; average attendance, 35.5. Second term, 51; average attendance, 38.3. Third term, 28; average attendance, 26. The studies pursued were Reading, Spelling, Penmanship, Arithmetic, Algebra, Grammar, Geography, Composition, History, Physiology and Philosophy. Miss French is a teacher of much experience and ability. The scholars manifested a desire to conform to the regulations of the school, and treated their teacher with much respect. This school affords some specimens of very good scholarship. Your Committee, with many of his predecessors, and with many of the past teachers of this school, has long been convinced that there are too many exercises, and too much labor for one school of six hours per day. The only way in which the exercises can be got through with, in a day, is to "rush things," as one of my predecessors has said. During the past year there were, before the commencement of the Barnard School, fifty-two different recitations per day. With this number of classes, it is evident that but very little explanation could be given by the teacher to each class, or if one class received the attention a class ought to receive, others would be wholly neglected.

Our *best* schools are those which have *thoroughness* for their motto. Our *best* scholars are those who can tell the "why and wherefore."

For our schools and scholars to attain these all-important requisitions, time must be had for thorough explanation and drill. The best method that can be adopted, in my opinion, would be the same as is adopted in several other schools that I am cognizant of, which are of a similar character. Let one or two of the older scholars in the district be employed to take charge of all the primary classes; this method could be easily adopted in this district, for there are many who attend this school who are well qualified for this station, and the conveniences of the rooms in the school building are also very good for this arrangement. The interests of this school demand some action in this direction, and we hope the district will give it their candid attention. The teacher, in her remarks, says:—

"I was much pleased with the orderly condition in which I found the school on entering it, and I eagerly endeavored to have it retain a high standing. Still, I feel that this school, like many others, labors under one great disadvantage—the multiplicity of books and classes being a serious disadvantage to the interest and advancement of the school, as the time given to the many classes deprived the scholars of the explanation which should attend every recitation. Praise is due the school, however, for their readiness and punctu-

ality in all their studies, they being ready to conform to my wishes ; and as a teacher I was ever proud of them. That they in future years, as scholars, may wisely improve their time as during the past year, is my earnest desire. Permit me, also, to offer my thanks to the parents for their kindly presence at the school-room ; it bespeaks a continued interest in this our cradle of learning. And may they ever aid it with their substance, their presence and their prayers."

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Prudential Committee—SAMUEL EASTMAN. Teacher—Miss AN-NIE M. FIFIELD, of Kingston. This school was divided into two terms. The first term commenced April 17th, and continued ten weeks, ending June 30th ; the second term commenced August 14th, continued ten and a half weeks, ending November 1st. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$22. Number of scholars four years of age and upwards, attending the first term, 26 ; average attendance, 22. Second term, 27 ; average attendance, 19. The studies pursued were Reading, Spelling, Penmanship, Arithmetic, Algebra, Grammar, Geography, Composition and History. Miss Fifield taught this school last year, and her services, being appreciated by the parents of the district, were retained this year. Good proficiency was made in the various studies pursued. The great evil of this school is irregular attendance. We hope the following remarks of the teacher will be heeded :—

"The school in which my labors were performed last year, the Committee were again pleased to place in my care. The pleasure with which I labored with it last year, was by no means diminished by my connection with it this year. The weeks passed with as few of the little annoyances to which a teacher is often subjected, as are met with in many schools ; and those weeks were not unimproved by my pupils. Their progress in their studies was, in most cases, to my satisfaction. I refer, of course, to those who attended constantly, for no improvement can be made when scholars are allowed to be absent two or three days each week. Irregularity is a very bad fault with this school. But the cause of it is due, I think, rather to the parents than to the children. Children should attend school regularly in order to receive the benefit of the instruction designed for them."

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Prudential Committee—JOHN MOULTON. Teacher—Miss LIZZIE E. FORSAITH, a resident of the town. The first term commenced May 15th, and continued seven weeks, ending June 30th ; the second term commenced August 7th, and continued fourteen weeks, ending November 9th. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$15.50. Number of scholars four years of age and upwards, attending the first term, 17 ; average attendance, 14. Second term, 16 ; average attendance, 12. The studies pursued were Reading, Spelling, Penmanship, Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, Composition, History, Physiology and Book-Keeping. This school was the first that the teacher had taught. She was eminently successful. The school, when visited, appeared well, and exhibited considerable advancement in the various studies. At the closing examination the scholars acquitted themselves in a manner that gave honor to the teacher, and credit to themselves.

The teacher, in her remarks, says :—

"There has been considerable interest manifested by parents and scholars, but I would like to have seen more by the parents, as the pupils think the school is of more importance when the parents feel an interest for them. The scholars seem very ambitious, and strive to learn; and I think they have made rapid progress in their studies. They are quick to learn, and willing to obey. The attendance has been very good, and there have been but few instances of tardiness, the most constant attendance being from those who reside farthest from the school-room."

DISTRICT NO. 4,

United with District No. 3, Newton.

Prudential Committee—ANDREW J. CURRIER. Teacher—Miss SUSAN L. CURRIER, a resident of the town. She has had several years' experience, and having taught school in every district in the town, is well known as an able and thorough teacher. During the summer term no one attended from South Hampton. During the winter term of eight weeks, commencing October 16th, J. Woodbury Currier attended 31 days, and Eddie Davis 17 days. The studies pursued were Reading, Spelling, Penmanship, Arithmetic and Geography. Amount of money expended for schooling in this district, \$41.00.

Considering the very limited number of scholars attending this school from this district the present year,—and knowing (from the fact that there are but two children in the district) that there will be but two, and probably less, who can attend for years to come,—it seems that the money appropriated for this district is virtually given to Newton. This, in our opinion, is not just,—it deprives the scholars of our town of the funds that should be expended for their benefit. This district should be disannexed from Newton, and united with Districts 1 and 2 of our town. We should thus save our money in our own town, and the benefit of it would be reciprocally felt in this district and the districts with which it would be united. This subject demands the immediate attention of the people of this town, and we hope they will not be found inactive upon a matter which so directly affects their pecuniary interests and the good of the young.

REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE.

It is with much pleasure and pride that we can report the names of several who have not been absent for one half day during a term, nor have they been late:—

Mary O. Purington,	Hattie K. Fowler,	Mary E. Dow,
Mary L. Woodman,	Willard Cobb,	Fannie A. Dow,
Frank B. Forsaith,	Mary J. Kimball,	Emma S. Eastman,
Stephen T. Kimball,	Sumner Pressey,	Freddy Brewer,
Emily F. Follansbee,	J. Alvin Page,	Charles W. Eastman,
Emily M. L. Merrill,	Eddie B. Merrill,	Edgar E. Hoyt,
Lizzie H. Collins,	George M. Kimball,	John W. Smith,
James E. Deleware,	Mary E. Brown,	Lucy J. Brown,
Sarah E. Pressey,	Cedora F. Brown,	Hattie T. Blake.
John E. Pressey,	Effie Brewer,	

This list exceeds the one given last year, and it reflects much toward the high standing and general prosperity of the schools.

VISITS.

The Registers do not show so many instances of visits, from parents, as would be desirable. It is not proposed to insult your understanding by entering into any discussion of this matter. We agree with one of our Commissioners, who has said: "We hope to see as much interest exhibited, by this farming community, in the welfare of their children, as they exhibit in the care of their colts and other stock."

BOOKS.

Our schools are well supplied with text-books. A single change has been made during the year. In the opinion of your Committee the interest of the school had long required a new series of Readers. Town and Holbrook's Progressive were introduced, and the improvement made, during the year, has clearly proved the necessity of the change.

In conclusion, your Committee would recommend to the citizens of this town to cherish the institution of common schools. No subject has higher claims to our care and liberality. The parent should consider it as the well-spring of happiness for his children, and the citizen as a source of prosperity to the State. Those who are in a few years to control the destinies of our highly favored country, are now in our public schools. Cherish, improve and elevate them, and they will stand strong. Neglect them, and they will become schools of disorder, misrule and vice.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

FREDERICK B. FRENCH,

Superintending School Committee.

South Hampton, February 23, 1866.